



# **2012 Urban Forest Management Plan Update**

## **Freight Advisory Board**

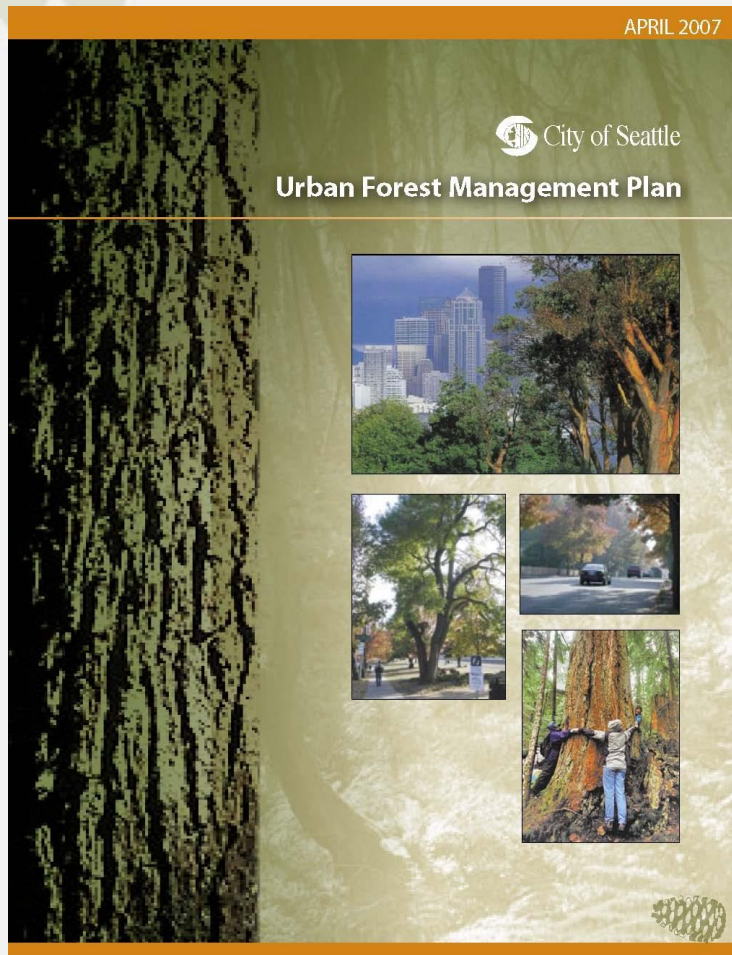
September 18, 2012

# Seattle's urban forest goal



Seattle's urban forest is a thriving and sustainable mix of tree and understory species and ages that creates a contiguous and healthy ecosystem that is valued by the City and all Seattle residents as an essential environmental, economic, and community asset.

# Urban Forest Management Plan



- Created in April 2007
- Being updated in 2012
- Establishes 30% citywide canopy goal
- Long-, mid-, and short-term strategies for achieving goals
- Implemented through annual workplans
- Managed via an inter-departmental team

# What's new since 2007

- **Urban Forestry Commission created in 2009**
- **Created a new, permanent position in 2011 to manage Seattle reLeaf program**
  - Outreach and engagement
  - Trees for Neighborhoods – 2,300 trees to date
  - Tree Ambassador – 40 in 13 neighborhoods
  - Urban Orchards Stewards – 58 in 9 orchards



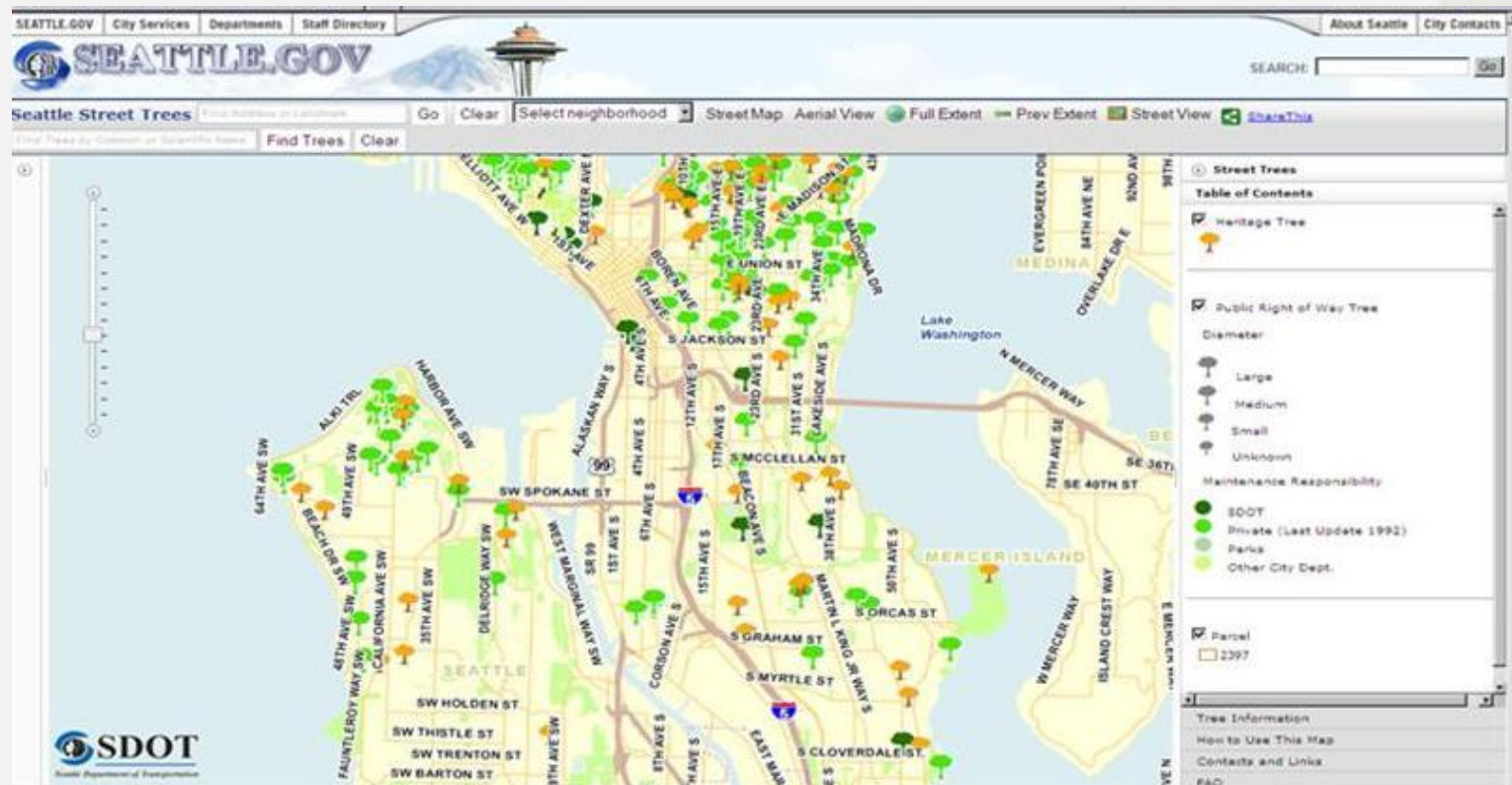
**Seattle reLeaf**  
keep the emerald city green





# What's new...

- **Seattle Department of Transportation:**
  - Street tree online map
  - Planted close to 4,500 trees with BTG funding
  - Street Tree ordinance and Manual update



# What's new...

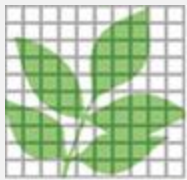
- **Parks and Recreation Department:**
  - Green Seattle Partnership:
    - Over 800 acres in restoration
    - Over 500,000 volunteer hours
    - 130 Forest Stewards





# What's new...

- **Department of Planning and Development:**
  - GreenFactor
  - Stormwater regulations and rates (with SPU)
  - Private property tree regulations update

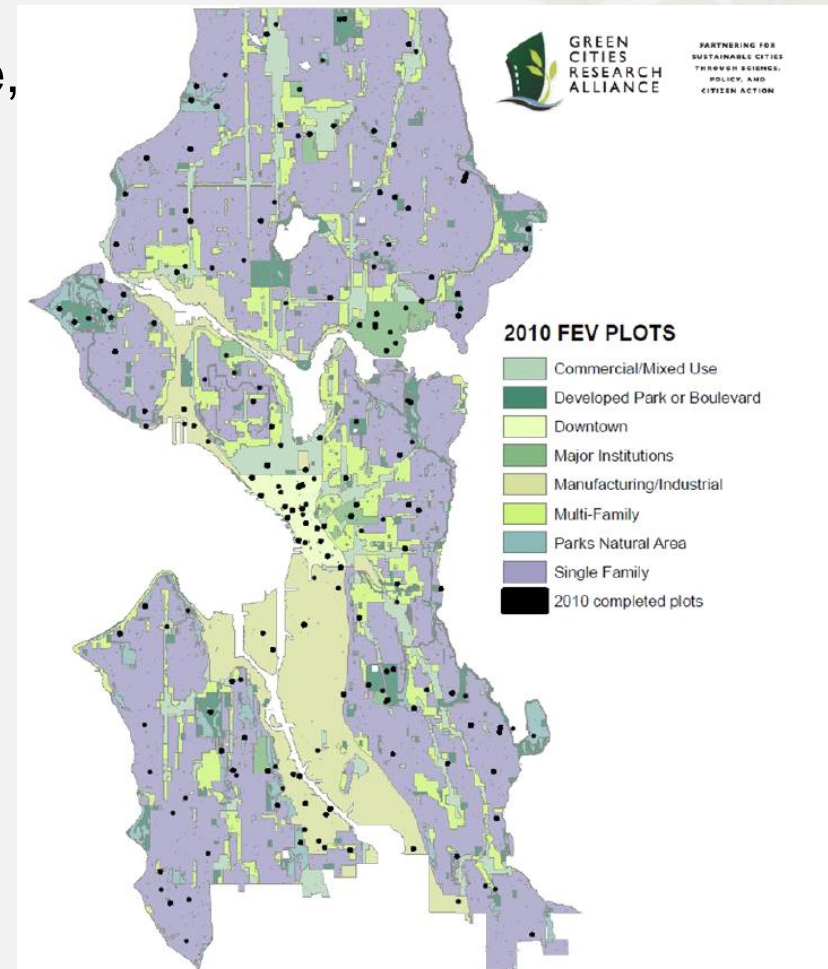


SEATTLE *green factor*



# What's new...

- **iTree sampling survey**
  - UW, King County, City of Seattle, and Forterra
  - 2010/2011 data from 223 plots
  - Information included in UFMP update:
    - Condition
    - Evergreen/deciduous breakdown
    - Size
    - Invasive species





# UFMP 2012 update

- Citywide canopy goal remains 30%
- Strategies remain the same. Focusing on outreach and engagement in residential areas
- Incorporated new urban forest condition information
- Updated Action Agenda
- Added Research Agenda



# Canopy cover goals

**Citywide goal is 30% by 2037**

Land Use Category	UFMP 2037 Canopy Cover Goal
Commercial/ Mixed Use	15%
Developed Park	25%
Downtown	12%
Major Institution	20%
Industrial	10%
Multi-Family	20%
Parks Natural Area	80%
Single Family	33%

# 2012 update strategies

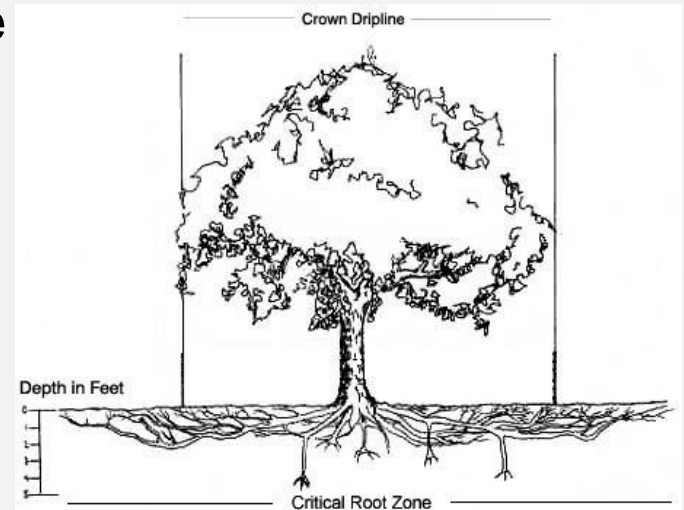
- Strategies remain the same but are reframed:
  - Understand
  - Coordinate
  - Preserve and restore
  - Regulate
  - Inspire, inform, and engage





# Action Agenda

- Notable short-term actions:
  - Canopy cover assessments every five years
  - Continue two-for-one tree replacement
  - i-Tree data analysis
  - Tree planting potential data “ground-truthing”
  - Develop policy to prioritize expenditures
  - Explore expansion of tree planting incentives
  - Encourage right tree in the right place
  - Expand volunteer opportunities



# Actions for industrial areas

The UFMP acknowledges unique challenges for increasing canopy cover in industrial areas due to freight mobility and other industrial operations needs

- Evaluate habitat corridor and waterways opportunities in industrial areas.
- Focus on maximizing canopy on Industrial Landscape Streets, riparian areas, and commercial properties.
- Work with private property owners and major public industrial operator to explore tree planting opportunities in industrial areas.



# Research Agenda

- Life-cycle costs of deferred tree planting and maintenance
- Costs/benefits of different pruning cycles
- Monetizing urban forest benefits (i.e. public health, energy, climate change)
- Method to quantify stormwater and water quality benefits





# UFMP update contact

Questions or comments

2012 Urban Forest Management Plan Update  
contact:

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**Public comment open through October 1, 2012**